Reconstitution of National Wastelands Development Board

1023. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reconstituted the National Wastelands Development Board (NWDB); if so, who are the constituents thereof;

(b) what are the objectives and functions of the NWDB;

(c) what are the details of targets and the allocation of funds for the Eighth Five Year Plan Period; and

(d) whether these funds are commensurate with the tasks envisaged, if not, what are the details of steps taken by Government to get ample funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT) (COL. RAM SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government have reconstituted the Nationaal Wastelands Development Board on 7th September, 1992 and placed it in the Department of Wastelands Development under the Ministry of Rural Development. A copy of the Resolution constituting the National Wastelands Development Board which includes its composition and role and functions is placed at statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The Eighth Five Year Plan of the National Wastelands Development Board has yet to be finalised. The Board is being allocated funds on a year to year basis. An amount of Rs. 24.90 crores was released during 1992-93. In 1993-94 a budget provision of Rs. 50 crores has been made. Keeping in view the magnitude of the task of development of wastelands in the country the budgetary allocation is not sufficient. However, Development of wastelands in the country is being carried out through various Departments of State Governments, autonomous State and Central bodies, non-governmental organisations and Voluntary Agencies. Proposals to involve the corporate sector to mobilise resources for development of wastelands are also under consideration.

Statement

MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT)

RESOLUTION

New Delhi, the 7th September, 1992

No. A.11011/4/92-Admn.—Consequent upon the setting up of the Department of Wastelands Development in the Ministry of Rural Development and the creation of the National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, it has been decided to reconstitute the National Wastelands Development Board (NWDB) with the following composition, role and functions :

COMPOSITION :

A. *Ex-Officio Members* :

CHAIRMAN

1. Minister of State of Wastelands Development

MEMBERS

2. Member, Planning Commission, in-charge of Rural Development

Secretaries to the Government of India in the Departments of

3. Agriculture and Cooperation
4. Rural Development
5. Agricultural Research and Education
6. Expenditure — Member (Finance)

MEMBERS

7. Environment and Forests

8. Science and Technology

9. Animal Husbandry and Dairying

10. Member-Secretary, National Land-Use and Conservation Board.

11. Chairman, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

B. *Nominated Members*

12 and 13 Members of Parliament (one each from the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha)

14—18 Representatives (not exceeding five) of Voluntary Agencies, Cooperative Institutions, etc. connected with wastelands development and related activities (to be nominated each year by the Chairman).

19—21 Development Commissioners of three States (to be nominated each year by the Chairman)

C. *Member-Secretary* :

22. Secretary (Wastelands Development)

ROLE AND FUNCTIONS :

The National Wastelands Development Board will be mainly responsible for the development of wastelands in non-forest areas aimed at checking land degradation, putting such wastelands in the country to sustainable use and increasing biomass availability, specially fuelwood and fodder. The Board will adopt a mission approach for enlisting people's participation, harnessing science and technology for the planning and implementation of wastelands development. To this end, it will—

(a) formulate, in collaboration with the National Land—Use and Conservation Board, a perspective plan for the management and development of wastelands in the non-forest areas in the country in a sustainable manner;

(b) identify such wastelands, create a reliable data base and collaborate with the concerned Central and State Departments/Agencies, Local bodies, Voluntary agencies and other Non-Governmental organisations to mobilise the resources and support required for development of wastelands in non-forest areas :

(c) evolve mechanisms for integrated development of such wastelands through systematic planning and implementation, in a cost-effective manner, specially to meet the need of the people in the rural areas in respect of fuelwood and fodder;

(d) raise fuelwood, fodder and timber on non-forest and private wastelands in order to reduce the pressure on the forest areas and to meet the needs of industry and market;

(e) sponsor research and extension of research findings to disseminate new and appropriate technologies for wastelands development;

(f) create general awareness and help foster a people's movement for wastelands development in non-forest areas with the assistance of Voluntary Agencies, Non-Government Organisations, Panchayati Raj Institutions and others, and promote participatory and sustainable management of community/public lands and other similar degraded common property resources;

(g) coordinate and monitor the Action Plans for activities related to such wastelands in order to upgrade land quality in a systematic and cost-effective manner; and

(h) undertake all other measures necessary for promoting wasteland s development in-non forest areas in the country.

NOTE :- The reference to non-forest areas denotes such of those areas as are not being dealt with by the National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board.

Funds Released under JRY

1024. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of funds released under JRY during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) to what extent these funds have been spent for creation of assets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is being implemented in the rural areas of the country from 1-4-1989. The scheme has the primary objective of providing additional gainful employment to the unemployed and under-employed persons, in the rural areas. In the process, it also results in the creation of economic productive assets for the direct and continuing benefits of the rural poor.

The details of funds released and utilisation of funds under JRY during the last 3 years is given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLXIX, Annexure No 25]. The details of the assets created during this period are given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLXIX, Annexure No 26].

Construction of Houses under IAY in Punjab

1025. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses constructed in each state particularly in punjab, under the Indira Awas Yojana during the period from 1990 to 1993;

(b) whether the target fixed by Government for the year 1992-93 has been achieved; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) A Statement is enclosed. (*See* below)

(b) Yes, Sir. As against the target of 117133 houses, 192560 houses have been constructed throughout the country during 1992-93, and in Punjab, the achievement was 3359 as against the target of 1255.

(c) Does not arise.